

What is claimed:

1. A door assembly comprising:
  - a door frame having an outer door panel;
  - a trim pad having an inboard surface, said trim pad fixedly secured to said door frame and defining an interior space between said trim pad and said outer door panel; and
  - an intermediate barrier fixedly secured to said door frame between said outer door panel and said trim pad, said intermediate barrier having a side impact portion and a water-impervious outboard surface defining a periphery thereabout.
2. A door assembly as set forth in claim 1 including a seal extending about said periphery of said water-impervious outboard surface of said intermediate barrier to create a seal preventing water that is collected by said door assembly from traveling past said intermediate barrier to said trim pad.
3. An intermediate barrier article fixedly securable within a door assembly, said intermediate barrier article comprising:
  - a panel of water-impervious material to prevent water collected by the door assembly from moving therepast; and
  - a side impact portion disposed within said panel of water-impervious material to aid in the absorption of energy received from a side impact.
4. An intermediate barrier article as set forth in claim 4 wherein said energy absorbing foam includes a urethane and an impact resistant styrene.
5. An intermediate barrier article as set forth in claim 5 wherein components of the door assembly are fixedly secured thereto.
6. An intermediate barrier article as set forth in claim 6 including an aperture allowing one of the components of the door assembly to extend therethrough.